

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 04053 161258Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 SAM-01 EB-07 TRSE-00 /063 W

----- 029746

O R 161254Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9860

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BELFAST

AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

UNCLAS LONDON 04053

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, UK

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER WILSON RESIGNS

1. PRIME MINISTER /WILSON ADVISED CABINET AT 11:08 THIS MORNING OF HIS INTENTION TO RESIGN LEADERSHIP OF LABOR PARTY AS SOON AS PARLIAMENTARY LABOR PARTY (PLP) CAN ELECT NEW LEADER. WILSON THEN WENT TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE TO ADVISE QUEEN OF HIS DECISION AND, UPON RETURN TO 10 DOWNING STREET, TOLD PRESS. ACCORDING TO PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT, WILSON HAD ADVISED QUEEN IN DECEMBER OF HIS INTENTION TO RESIGN IN MARCH. WILSON ATTRIBUTED HIS DECISION TO HIS DESIRE TO RETIRE FROM ACTIVE POLITICAL

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 04053 161258Z

LIFE AT AGE 60, AND HE PASSED THAT MILESTONE LAST WEEK.

HE WILL APPARENTLY REMAIN IN COMMONS AS BACKBENCHER.

2. PLP SOURCES TELL US THAT IT WILL PROBABLY TAKE AT LEAST TWO WEEKS FOR NEW LEADER TO BE ELECTED -- ONE WEEK ALLOWED FOR NOMINATIONS AND ANOTHER WEEK FOR MPS TO CAST THEIR BALLOTS. WILSON WILL REMAIN AS PM DURING INTERIM. PLP SOURCES ALSO ADVISE THAT CALLAGHAN SEEMS TO BE ODDS ON FAVORITE TO SUCCEED /WILSON AT LEAST FOR MOMENT, AND MAY HAVE HAD ADVANCE WARNING OF PM'S DECISION.

ARMSTRONG

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIME MINISTER, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LONDON04053
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760098-0834
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760357/aaaabxwu.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUL 2004 by vandyklc>; APPROVED <19 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER WILSON RESIGNS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, UK, (WILSON, HAROLD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006